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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/408,874	09/29/1999	MARTIN M. DENEROFF	499.034US1	4556

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EXAMINER

CHUNG TRANS, XUONG MY

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2181

DATE MAILED: 12/04/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/408,874

Applicant(s)

Deneroff et al.

Examiner

X. CHUNG-TRAN

Group Art Unit

2181

—The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet beneath the correspondence address—

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, such period shall, by default, expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).

Status

- ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 9/29/99.
- ☐ This action is **FINAL**.
- ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, **prosecution as to the merits is closed** in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- ☒ Claim(s) 1-31 is/are pending in the application.
Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- ☒ Claim(s) 1-31 is/are rejected.
- ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

Application Papers

- ☐ See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.
- ☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____ is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.
- ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.
- ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 (a)-(d)

- ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).
 - ☐ All ☐ Some* ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) _____.
 - ☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 1.7.2(a)).

*Certified copies not received: _____

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). 4-5
- ☒ Notice of Reference(s) Cited, PTO-892
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948
- ☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152
- ☐ Other _____

Office Action Summary

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1. This application has been examined. Claims 1-31 are pending in this application.
2. The oath or declaration is objected to because the signature of the joint inventor, John Brennan, is missing or unsigned.
3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 1-31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Galles et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,721, 819).

As per above claims, Galles discloses (Figs. 1- 5) the invention as claimed, comprising a set of functionally independent processing nodes (102) having one or more local processor (304) and local memory (312), wherein each node includes a common communication interface (204, 508) for communicating with other nodes within the system via a messages conforming to a packetized network protocol; and one or more routing modules (208) communicatively coupling the processing nodes via their respective common communication interface, wherein the nodes operate in a global shared memory address space (col. 5, lines 53-58), wherein the common communication interface within each node connects the local memory (312) to the local processors (304), providing at least one port (404) for interfacing with the routing modules

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(208,308) and one port for communicating with an I/O subsystem (316), includes a system control hierarchy comprising a level one controller, a level two controller and a level three controller (col. 6, line 64 to col. 10, line 58), a plurality of interface control units, and a crossbar (408), wherein each control unit communicates by sending messages through the crossbar, wherein the message protocol is a synchronous message protocol comprising requests and replies (col. 6, lines 8-22, and cols. 11-12).

As per claim 30-31, Galles discloses (Figs. 1- 5) the invention as claimed, comprising a set of functionally independent processing nodes that can be operatively coupled to form one of a plurality of computing topologies, wherein each computing topology supports a number of the processing nodes and wherein each computing topology is a superset of the computing topologies that support fewer processing nodes (col. 4, lines 1-39).

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Xuong Chung-Trans whose telephone number is (703) 305-9772. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 9:30AM to 2:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mark Rinehart, can be reached on (703) 305- 4815. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 746-7239.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.


X.M. Chung-Trans
Patent Examiner
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